

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Notice to Mariners is published by the National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA), under the authority of Department of Defense Directive 5105.40, to advise mariners of important matters affecting navigational safety, including new hydrographic discoveries, changes in channels and navigational aids, etc. (U.S. Code Title 10, Sec. 442 and Title 44, Sec. 1336 refer). Nothing in the arrangement of information implies endorsement or acceptance by NIMA in matters affecting the status and boundaries of States and territories. The Notice to Mariners presents corrective information affecting charts, NIMA Hydrographic Products Catalog, Coast Pilots, Sailing Directions, Fleet Guides, USCG Light Lists, NIMA List of Lights, Radio Navigational Aids and other products produced by the National Imagery and Mapping Agency, National Ocean Service and U.S. Coast Guard.

Information for the Notice to Mariners is contributed by the following Agencies: National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA) (Department of Defense) for waters outside the territorial limits of the United States; National Ocean Service (NOS) (Department of Commerce), which is charged with the surveys and charting of the coasts and harbors of the United States and its territories; the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) (Department of Transportation), which is responsible for the safety of life at sea and the establishment and operation of aids to navigation; and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Department of Defense), which is charged with the improvement of rivers and harbors of the United States. In addition, important contributions are made by foreign hydrographic offices and cooperating observers of all nationalities.

For further information concerning NIMA hydrographic products and services, including the Maritime Safety Information Center Website, users may contact:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>DSN</u>	<u>FAX</u>
Maritime Safety Information Center	301-227-3370	287-3370	301-227-4211
World-Wide Navigational Warning Service	301-227-3147	287-3147	301-227-3731
Fleet Liaison Officer	301-227-3120	287-3120	301-227-4211
Maritime Safety Information Center Website	301-227-3296	287-3296	301-227-4211
Notice to Mariners: Regions 1 and 2	301-227-3122	287-3122	301-227-3175
Notice to Mariners: Regions 3 thru 9	301-227-3146	287-3146	301-227-3175
Sailing Directions, Fleet Guides	301-227-3183	287-3183	301-227-3174
Navigation Science Publications	301-227-3120	287-3120	301-227-3731
Distribution Issues	301-227-7652	287-7652	301-227-4211

The Maritime Safety Information Center Website can be accessed via the NIMA Homepage (www.nima.mil) under the Safety of Navigation icon or directly at (<http://pollux.nss.nima.mil>). For your convenience NIMA provides three e-mail addresses. For information affecting Notice to Mariners use NavNotices@nima.mil, for information affecting Sailing Directions and all other navigational publications use SDPUBS@nima.mil, for information concerning the Maritime Safety Information Center Website, use webmaster@nima.mil.

Mariners are requested to notify NIMA of discrepancies in charts and publications, using the Marine Information Report and Suggestion Sheet at the back of this Notice to Mariners. This form should also be used to report permanent changes, additions, or deletions from charted or published information. Reports which constitute an immediate hazard to navigation should be sent to the nearest NAVAREA Coordinator via coast radio stations. All reports are greatly appreciated. Marine Information Report and Suggestion sheets received during the past week were submitted by the following observers:

Observer	Ship/Organization
LTJG David Harris	USS HEWITT
M/N Andrew Etter	U.S. MERCHANT MARINE
	ACADEMY
QM3 Pham	USS PATRIOT

Cover Photo: USS LST-325 (1943-1964) underway and making way with a crew of 28 U.S. Navy veterans on a remarkable 58 day, 6,000-mile transatlantic voyage from Crete, Greece to Mobile, Alabama. The average age of the crew was 72.5. Built in 1943 at the Philadelphia Navy Yard, this 327-foot, 2,366-ton Class-1 Landing Ship Tank (LST) was one of the hundreds of landing craft produced in American shipyards for the purpose of delivering men and material to otherwise inaccessible beaches. From the Pacific to the Mediterranean and from Burma to Normandy, the allied counteroffensives were predicated on amphibious operations that were essential to re-entering axis-held territory. **USS LST-325** was part of the first amphibious convoy to the European War Zone and soon thereafter participated in the invasions of Sicily and Salerno in 1943. She joined some 5,000 allied vessels in the D-Day Invasion (June 6, 1944), which by any measure ranks as the greatest amphibious assault in history. In 1964 she was transferred to the Hellenic Navy under the Military Assistance Program and served in that nation's navy for three decades. In 2000 the ship was acquired by the USS LST Memorial Organization for the purpose of serving as a floating museum. She is a tribute to those who served and a reminder of the tremendous sacrifices made by a generation of Americans. *Photo courtesy of Compass Bank in Birmingham, Alabama.*